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(54) **Method and system for the removal of platforms at sea**

(57) The present invention relates to a method of removing an upper part of a platform which rests on a seabed and which extends above the waterline, the platform comprising legs which extend upwards from the seabed, the method comprising the subsequent steps of:

- providing a vessel comprising a single hull, the hull defining a contour of the vessel when viewed from above;
- providing a support structure which is configured to rest on the vessel, the support structure comprising one or more beams, the one or more beams having connection ends that are constructed to extend outside the contour of the hull on opposite sides of the vessel, the connection

ends configured to be connected to the legs of the platform;

- positioning the vessel between the legs of the platform;
- connecting the connection ends to the legs of the platform;
- disconnecting the upper part of the platform from the lower part;
- lifting the upper part of the platform from the lower part by the vessel via the support structure;
- moving the vessel and the upper part of the platform away from the lower part of the platform.

The present invention further relates to a system for carrying out the method.

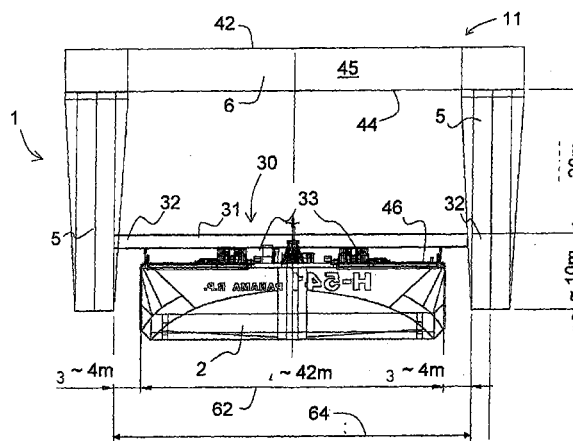


Fig. 3



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 08 07 5925

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 28 September 2010	Examiner Brumer, Alexandre
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
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